

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168
ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /018 R

DRAFTED BY PA:CSHAPIRO:KTK
APPROVED BY PA/PRESS:HTRATTNER
S/S-SID GOLDSMITH

-----106369 201729Z /47

O 201700Z APR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

FOR HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: MORNING PRESS SUMMARY, APRIL 20, 1978

NEWSPAPERS

NYT -- GWERTZMAN FROM MOSCOW (PAGE 1)

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE ARRIVED TODAY FOR TALKS WITH
SOVIET LEADERS AIMED AT FOSTERING AN AGREEMENT ON THE
LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS AND AT IMPROVING THE ATMOS-
PHERE IN RELATIONS IN ADVANCE OF A POSSIBLE VISIT BY
BREZHNEV TO THE US."

OTHER POINTS:

-- ON ARRIVAL VANCE CITED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEETING AND
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TWO POWERS TO REACH AGREEMENT.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

-- VANCE TO MEET WITH GROMYKO, THEN BREZHNEV.

-- US OFFICIALS ARE CERTAIN THAT THESE TALKS WILL BE MORE
HARMONIOUS THAN THOSE OF LAST SPRING.

---VANCE'S CONFIDENCE IS BUOYED BY SENATE RATIFICATION OF
THE CANAL TREATIES.

-- THE SOVIETS ARE SAID TO BE SERIOUS ABOUT MOVING AHEAD
ON SALT.

-- VANCE EXPECTS TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND USSR: FURTHER PROGRESS IS HOPED FOR AT UN SSOD LEADING TO CARTER-BREZHNEV SUMMIT IN US IN SUMMER OR FALL.

-- REPORTERS WERE TOLD VANCE PLANS TO FOCUS ON LIMITATION OF DEPLOYMENT OF BALLISTIC MISSILES, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO ALLIED NATIONS, AND BACKFIRE.

-- THE TWO SIDES ALSO HAVE TO AGREE ON NUMERICAL LIMITS AND ON THE TYPE OF PLANE THAT MAY CARRY CRUISE MISSILES.

WASHINGTON POST -- KLOSE FROM MOSCOW

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE ARRIVED LAST NIGHT FOR TALKS WITH THE KREMLIN ON LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS. WHILE THE US DELEGATION EXPECTS NO MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS, IT CLEARLY HOPES FOR SOME PROGRESS TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP."

OTHER POINTS:

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

-- THE SOVIETS MAINTAIN THAT RELATIONS ARE AT A SYMBOLIC "CROSSROADS AND CALL FOR MAJOR US CONCESSIONS.

-- MUTED ARRIVAL CONTRASTED TO MARCH '77. THEN CARTER ADMINISTRATION UNVEILED SWEEPING PROPOSALS WHICH WERE REJECTED BY THE SOVIETS.

-- AMERICAN OFFICIALS WILL BE SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS ON SEVERAL OF THE MAJOR SALT ISSUES SO THAT FURTHER TALKS CAN OCCUR AT SSOD.

-- DEADLOCK OVER BACKFIRE IS UNLIKELY TO BE BROKEN.

-- VANCE WILL ALSO TALK ABOUT SOVIET/CUBAN MILITARY VENTURES IN AFRICA.

-- SOURCES SUGGESTED PROGRESS IN TALKS COULD LEAD TO CARTER-BREZHNEV MEETING LATER IN YEAR TO SIGN A NEW ACCORD.

BALTIMORE SUN -- TREWHITT FROM MOSCOW

LEAD:"SECSTATE VANCE ARRIVED HERE LAST NIGHT HOPING TO

RESTORE MOVEMENT TOWARD A NEW ARMS CONTROL TREATY AND REDUCE TENSIONS IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS GENERALLY."

OTHER POINTS:

-- BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE REPORTEDLY IN CONCILIATORY MOOD,
BUT CONCRETE RESULTS ARE UNCERTAIN.

-- VANCE IS AIMING ONLY AT SETTLEMENT OF SOME SPECIFIC
DETAILS OF SALT AGREEMENT RATHER THAN BREAKTHROUGH. BUT
US DIPLOMATS HOPE THAT WILL PUT THE NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON
THE TRACK. BOTH HAVE ALREADY AGREED ON THE BROAD OUT-
LINES OF A NEW TREATY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

-- ON ARRIVAL VANCE ACKNOWLEDGED GREAT DIFFICULTIES AHEAD.
GROMYKO GREETED VANCE CORDIALLY BUT WITHOUT CEREMONY.

-- THE PRINCIPAL REMAINING ISSUES ON SALT ARE LIMITATIONS
ON TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW MISSILES, CONTROL OF
BACKFIRE, AND TERMS FOR NONCIRCUMVENTION AND NONTRANSFER.

-- THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE REGARDED AS BEING AS IMPORTANT IN
POLITICAL AS IN MILITARY TERMS. VANCE IS DETERMINED TO
ERASE ANY IMPRESSION OF WEAKNESS WITHOUT BEING BELLICOSE
OR INFLEXIBLE.

-- VANCE SAID IN HIS CENTO SPEECH THAT CUBAN/SOVIET
ACTIVITY IN AFRICA WAS OF "GREAT CONCERN" TO THE US.

-- BOTH SIDES REGARD THE ROUND OF NEGOTIATION AS A
CRUCIAL TEST OF WILL, BOTH WANT THE NEGOTIATIONS TO
SUCCEED. BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR IF EITHER WILL MAKE THE
NECESSARY COMPROMISES.

WALL ST. JOURNAL -- BACON FROM MOSCOW

LEAD: SECSTATE VANCE OPENS THREE DAYS OF MEETINGS WITH
SOVIET LEADERS TODAY WITH MODEST HOPES FOR RELAXING THE
STRAIN IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS OR NARROWING
DIFFERENCES ON SOME ARMS CONTROL ISSUES."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE DOES NOT EXPECT TO LEAVE MOSCOW WITH FINAL
SOLUTIONS TO OUTSTANDING ISSUES ON SALT.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

-- WHILE CONCENTRATING ON SALT, VANCE WILL ALSO DISCUSS
US CONCERN OVER THE HORN AND OTHER MATTERS.

-- VANCE WILL TRY TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THE THREE MAJOR
ISSUES ON SALT: BACKFIRE, MODERNIZATION OF MISSILES, AND

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO ALLIES.

CSM -- SOUTHERLAND FROM MOSCOW

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE'S CURRENT MISSION TO MOSCOW FACES MORE MODEST PROBLEMS THAN THOSE ENCOUNTERED DURING THE ABORTIVE TRIP HE MADE TO THE SOVIET CAPITAL A YEAR AGO, SENIOR US OFFICIALS SAY."

OTHER POINTS:

-- THE TRIP IS VITAL TO "BREAKING THE LOGJAM" ON SALT. VANCE MUST NOW STEP INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS.

-- AT MAXIMUM VANCE HOPES TO MAKE SOME PROGRESS ON OUTSTANDING SALT ISSUES AND RESOLVE COMPLETELY SEVERAL ISSUES OF "SECONDARY IMPORTANCE." AT MINIMUM HE HOPES TO DETERMINE IF THE SOVIETS ARE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

-- VANCE ALSO WANTS TO DEMONSTRATE THE WILLINGNESS OF THE US TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY THUS COUNTERING SOVIET ACCUSATIONS.

-- THE CURRENT TALKS ARE SEEN AS A PROCESS LEADING TO THE SSOD AND TO FULL AGREEMENT ON A NEW SALT TREATY BY MIDSUMMER.

RADIO/TV NETWORKS

NBC-TV, "TODAY" -- VALERIANI FROM MOSCOW
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

TEXT: THIS IS VANCE'S FIRST RETURN VISIT TO MOSCOW SINCE MARCH OF LAST YEAR WHEN THE RUSSIANS FLATLY REJECTED ARMS CONTROL PROPOSALS AS ONE-SIDED. AMERICAN-SOVIET RELATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING DOWNHILL EVER SINCE, AND ONE OF THE AIMS OF THIS TRIP IS SIMPLY TO PATCH UP THE RELATIONSHIP AND IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE FOR CONTINUING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON LIMITING EACH SIDE'S NUCLEAR ARSENAL.

VANCE IS ALSO GOING TO COMPLAIN TO THE RUSSIANS ABOUT THEIR HEAVY MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA, BUT AMERICAN OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE TOO MANY CARDS TO PLAY ON THAT ISSUE, EXCEPT TO MAKE THE OBVIOUS POINT: THAT IF THE RUSSIANS KEEP MAKING TROUBLE IN AFRICA THEN IT WILL BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO GET A NEW ARMS CONTROL

AGREEMENT RATIFIED BY THE US SENATE.

THIS MORNING, BENEATH THE GOLDEN DOMES OF THE KREMLIN, VANCE AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO

IMMEDIATELY STARTED TRYING TO BREAK THE STALEMATE IN THE TALKS ON A NEW ARMS CONTROL TREATY. THE PRESENCE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES, MARSHAL NICOLAI OGARKOV, SUGGESTED THAT THE RUSSIANS WERE READY TO DO BUSINESS. VANCE BELIEVES THE MAJOR PROBLEMS WHICH ARE STILL OUTSTANDING ARE TOO DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE DURING THE NEXT THREE DAYS, BUT HE DOES EXPECT TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN NARROWING THE DIFFERENCES BY THE TIME HE LEAVES ON SUNDAY.

CBS-TV MORNING NEWS -- KALB FROM MOSCOW

THE KREMLIN EARLY THIS MORNING, OUTSIDE A DAZZLING UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

DISPLAY OF ARCHITECTURE DATING BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE CZARS. INSIDE, A MEETING THAT COULD DETERMINE THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE. THEY ENTERED FROM OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE ROOM IN A KIND OF DIPLOMATIC CHOREOGRAPHY, SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO MEETING MIDWAY. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR NUCLEAR AND MILITARY STRATEGISTS. THIS SESSION REPRESENTS ANOTHER MAJOR EFFORT JUST BELOW THE SUMMIT LEVEL TO TRY TO OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES BLOCKING A NEW AGREEMENT TO CONTROL NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

THE RUSSIANS HAVE ACCUSED WASHINGTON OF STALLING, THEIR WAY OF TRYING TO PUT THE US ON THE DEFENSIVE. BUT VANCE'S PRESENCE HERE IN THE KREMLIN IS A REFUTATION OF THAT CHARGE. STILL, THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE APPROACH BEING TAKEN BY THE US THIS TIME COMPARED TO VANCE'S VISIT HERE JUST A YEAR AGO. THIS TIME THERE'S A DEEMPHASIS OF THE US PROPOSAL FOR A DRASTIC SLASH IN NUCLEAR ARSENALS, A DEEMPHASIS OF HUMAN RIGHTS (THE RUSSIANS DON'T CARE FOR EITHER).

THE AMERICANS ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT WHAT WILL COME OUT OF THESE TALKS, NO BREAKTHROUGH EXPECTED, MAYBE SOME PROGRESS. ONE REPORTER ASKED GROMYKO IF HE HAD ANY SPECIAL HOPE ABOUT THIS MEETING. GROMYKO SMILED. HE'S A VETERAN OF SPARRING WITH AMERICAN NEWSMEN, A MASTER AT PUBLIC AMBIGUITY. WE HOPE TO HOPE, GROMYKO WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. AFTER A FEW MINUTES REPORTERS AND CAMERAMEN WERE FIRMLY USHERED OUT THE ROOM. THE SUPER-POWERS WERE GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS.

THIS VISIT IS A TEST OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS. RIGHT NOW THEY'RE AT A LOW POINT. THE CHALLENGE IS WHETHER THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE KREMLIN CAN PUMP SOME NEW LIFE INTO DETENTE. THERE'S A QUESTION MARK ON BOTH SIDES AS THEY BEGAN THEIR FIRST ROUND OF TALKS. UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

ABC-TV "GOOD MORNING AMERICA," -- DUNSMORE FROM MOSCOW

SECRETARY VANCE AND HIS ENTOURAGE OF STRATEGIC ARMS EXPERTS WENT TO THE KREMLIN THIS MORNING TO BEGIN IMPORTANT TALKS WHICH COULD SET THE TONE FOR FUTURE SOVIET-US RELATIONS. WHEN VANCE CAME HERE A YEAR AGO THE TALKS BROKE DOWN BECAUSE THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS TOO DOGMATIC, AND RELATIONS TOOK A NEGATIVE TURN. THIS MORNING PRESIDENT BREZHNEV WAS NOT PRESENT AS HE HAS BEEN FOR MOST OPENING SESSIONS OF STRATEGIC ARMS TALKS. THE SOVIET DELEGATION WAS HEADED UP BY FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO.

U.S. OFFICIALS WERE NOT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS, HOWEVER, AND NOTED THAT THERE WAS A TOP SOVIET GENERAL PRESENT WHO NORMALLY DOES NOT ATTEND THESE TALKS. BREZHNEV IS EXPECTED TO JOIN IN LATER SESSIONS. US OFFICIALS DO NOT EXPECT TO GET A NEW SALT AGREEMENT IN THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, THEY ARE HOPING FOR ENOUGH PROGRESS TO MOVE THE TALKS FORWARD PERHAPS TO THE POINT OF BEING ABLE TO SET UP A CARTER-BREZHNEV SUMMIT LATER THIS YEAR. US-SOVIET RELATIONS IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAVE BEEN UNEASY. WHETHER THEY WILL IMPROVE OR DETERIORATE ANY FURTHER DEPENDS IN LARGE MEASURE ON THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS. IF PROGRESS CAN BE MADE DURING THIS VISIT, IT WILL AUGUR WELL FOR FUTURE RELATIONS. THE ONE POINT ON WHICH BOTH SIDES SEEM TO AGREE IS THAT AGREEMENTS WHICH LIMIT THE ABILITY OF THE TWO TO BLOW EACH OTHER UP ARE GOOD FOR RELATIONS. THE ABSENCE OF SUCH AGREEMENTS IS BAD.

WIRES
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

REUTER -- GUTMAN FROM MOSCOW

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE SAID TODAY HE HOPED HIS TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS THIS WEEK WOULD CLEAR THE AIR AND END A DIFFICULT PERIOD IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER-POWERS"

OTHER POINTS:

-- IN A LUNCHEON TOAST VANCE PLEDGED THE US WOULD DO ITS

BEST TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES STILL BLOCKING COMPLETION OF SALT.

-

-- S OFFICIALS SAID THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS CENTERED ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS, BUT THEY EXPECTED LATER DISCUSSIONS

TO CENTER ON SALT.

-- ON ARRIVAL LAST NIGHT, VANCE CITED THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS REMAINING ON SALT BUT HOPED FOR PROGRESS.

-- ONE SOVIET COMMENTARY YESTERDAY SAID SALT IS 90 PERCENT COMPLETE.

-- THERE ARE GROWING SIGNS THAT THE ISSUES REGARDING THE CRUISE MISSILE HAVE BEEN LARGELY RESOLVED.

-- THE SOVIETS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT IT IS UP TO THE US TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS TO BRING ABOUT A NEW TREATY.

UPI -- ANDERSON FROM MOSCOW

LEAD:"THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION TODAY BEGAN A ROUND OF STRATEGIC ARMS TALKS THAT BOTH SIDES AGREED WERE 'EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT.'"

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE/GROMYKO MEETING LASTED THREE HOURS. IT CONSISTED OF EACH READING HIS COUNTRY'S POSITION.

-- LATER DISCUSSIONS WILL COVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS.

-- AT LUNCH BOTH VANCE AND GROMYKO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TALKS.

-- DURING THE MEETING IRINA MCCLELLAND, SOVIET WIFE OF AN AMCIT, AND HER DAUGHTER CHAINED THEMSELVES TO THE FENCE OUTSIDE THE US EMBASSY IN ORDER TO PROTEST SOVIET'S REFUSAL TO GRANT THEM EXIT VISAS. INCIDENT WAS NOT SEEN BY SECSTATE.

AP -- NO SCHWEID IN MORNING TAKE.

DUE TO MINIMIZE AT EMBASSY MOSCOW, FULL TRANSCRIPTS OF ARTICLES CANNOT BE TRANSMITTED. THE FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY BURNS PIECE IN NYT.

LEAD: "A MONTH AFTER THREE BLACK LEADERS JOINED IAN SMITH AT THE HEAD OF RHODESIA'S TRANSITION GOVERNMENT, SIGNS OF STRAIN HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR."

OTHER POINTS:

-- THE STRAINS COULD COMPLICATE EFFORTS AT TRANSITION

TO MAJORITY RULE.

-- THE FOUR-MAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS REVERSED THE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 11 STATE 101307 TOSEC 040168

POLICIES OF THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT ON A NUMBER
OF ISSUES, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH WAS THE RELEASE
OF 461 BLACK POLITICAL DETAINEES.

-- THE BLACK LEADERS ALSO HAVE INFORMED SMITH THAT THEY
WILL REFUSE TO CONFIRM ANY DEATH SENTENCES IMPOSED ON
BLACK POLITICAL OFFENDERS BY THE ALL-WHITE JUDICIARY.

-- THERE MAY BE SERIOUS DIFFERENCES OVER SOME OF THE ISSUES
THAT MAY ARISE IN THE PERIOD BEFORE THE ONE-MAN ONE-
VOTE ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR LATER THIS YEAR. THESE
INCLUDE: CONDUCT OF THE WAR, REMOVAL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINA-
TION, AND UPGRADING THE STATUS OF BLACKS WITHIN THE CIVIL
SERVICE, ESPECIALLY IN THE POLICE AND THE ARMY.

-- THE WHITE JUSTICE MINISTER HINTED THAT WHITES MIGHT
BACK OFF FROM THE COMMITMENT TO BLACK RULE IF THE PUSH
FOR BLACK ADVANCEMENT WENT BEYOND THE WHITE INTERPRETA-
TION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 sep 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TOSEC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE101307
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA:CSHAPIRO:KTK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780169-0529
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197804109/baaafcme.tel
Line Count: 408
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4539bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 8
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2830438
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING PRESS SUMMARY, APRIL 20, 1978
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, UR, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4539bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014